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Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0032

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CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA) REQUEST TRANSMITTAL Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing. (Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(d)) Attorney Docket No. 1685 Address to: of Prior Application **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Thorsen et al. First Named Inventor RECEIVED **Box CPA** Examiner Name S. Rimell Washington, DC 20231 DEC 1 4 2001 2166 Group Art Unit Technology Center 2100 Express Mail Label No. ET433678586US continuation or divisional application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), This is a request for a (continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09 , entitled Healthcare Payment, Reporting & Data Processing System & Method filed on 05/21/1999

## **NOTES**

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 CFR 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. 371. Effective May 29, 2000, a CPA may only be filed in a utility or a plant application if the prior nonprovisional application was filed before May 29, 2000. A CPA may be filed in a design application regardless of the filing date of the prior application. See "Request for Continued Examination Practice changes to and Provisional Application Practice," Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office (Apr. 11, 2000).

C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 CFR 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 CFR 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA will be construed to include a waiver of confidentiality by the applicant under 35 U.S.C. 122 to the extent that any member of the public who is entitled under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.14 to access to, copies of, or information concerning, the prior application may be given similar access to, copies of, or similar information concerning, the other application or applications in the file jacket.

35 U.S.C. 120 STATEMENT: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific reference required by 35 U.S.C. 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 CFR 1.78(a).

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

1.	Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on under 37 CFR 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2.	A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
3.	. This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 CFR 1.53(d)(4).
	a. DELETE the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:
	b. The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4.	. A new power of attorney or authorization of agent (PTO/SB/81) is enclosed.
5.	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
	a. 🔲 PTO-1449

[Page 1 of 2]

Copies of IDS Citations

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.4 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box CPA, Washington, DC 20231.

PTO/SB/29 (10-00)

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	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c) α (j))	-20*	= 0		x \$	=	\$
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b) or (i))	4 -3**	= 1		x \$ <u>84.0</u>	0 =	84.00
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT (	.16(d))	+ \$=				
	BASIC FEE (37 CFR 1.16)						740.00
		Total of above Calculations =					
	Reduction by 50% for filing	by small entity (No	ote 37 CFR 1	.27).			412.00
	* Reissue claims in excess on the second sec				TC	TAL =	412.00
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15. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED					
Name (Print lType)	Stephanie J. Smith				
Signature	Stedrame Smith				
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,437				
Date	12/10/01				